



Jobs Act for Public K-12 & Higher Education Institutions

Quilcene School District

About the Jobs Act:

The Jobs Act for Public K-12 and Higher Education Institutions was funded through the 2010 Supplemental Capital Budget – ESHB 2836 Section 1016. \$50 million was given to Commerce. Commerce awarded 77 grants totaling \$42.5 million. The Quilcene School District is located in the 24th Legislative District. For more information: www.commerce.wa.gov

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Aging school buildings get a new lease on life

Quilcene School District (QSD) educates approximately 500 students annually from pre-school through 12th grade. The district is comprised of: one high school, one middle school, one elementary school, the Crossroads Alternative School, and the HEP-Homeschool Exploration Program. The district also serves neighboring Brinnon's high school students.

Situation:

QSD elementary school, middle school, and high school buildings' lighting and heating and cooling systems are very, very old. The HVAC equipment was failing and the district was finding it almost impossible to get parts or service.

Solution:

Every year, QSD tried to do something to update their aging buildings and equipment. Their former Superintendent, David Anderson, was always actively seeking money to repair and update the schools, said Cindy Pollard, business manager Quilcene School District. When he heard about the Jobs Act he immediately wrote the grant. He was passionate about energy efficiency and improving the district, she said.

The district embarked on two projects. Their first priority was to replace all of the buildings' lighting which gave the district their biggest savings. The old

Project Highlights:

- *Installed new lighting throughout all of the district's schools*
- *Four new roof top heat pumps at the middle school*
- *New middle school roof*
- *Estimated annual energy savings \$14,236*





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Cindy Pollard
Business Manager

lighting had magnetic ballasts and fluorescent lamps that gave off an awful yellow color, said Pollard. Now, new energy efficient fluorescent lamps with electronic ballasts are found throughout the district.

Upgrading the middle school’s HVAC system was the district’s second project. Built in 1968, the middle school’s four classrooms were heated by individual systems and the school’s office had electric baseboard heating. The heating systems were failing all of the time, said Pollard. The old HVAC system was replaced with four new roof top heat pumps. When the contractors were installing the roof top heat pumps, they discovered the schools’ roof was also failing, so the district replaced the roof.

“Replacing the old heating system and roof extended the life of the middle school by at least 50 years,” said Pollard.

Results:

QSD new lighting has made the classrooms much brighter for the students and teachers. No one is

straining to see any more, said Pollard. In fact, some of the teachers and staff are only using half of the lights. And the new heat pumps are making the classrooms comfortable.

Without the Jobs Act money the district wouldn’t have been able to do these projects, said Pollard. The grant paid for a little less than half the total project costs. The Jobs Act also put people to work in Jefferson and Clallam counties, she said. The new energy technologies are expected to save \$14,236 annually.

The savings will pay for the district’s state loan.

“Repaying the loan with the savings is perfect. At the end of the loan period, the district will have gotten all of the improvements for basically nothing,” said Pollard.



Measures:

- *Lighting*
- *HVAC – heat pumps*
- *Roof*

Total project costs: \$518,354

***Estimated annual energy savings:
\$14,236***

Grant award amount: \$230,000